5

10



## Abstract of the Disclosure

A 2-dimensional placement system and method minimize reliability concerns arising from electromigration and self-heat while at the same time achieving a high layout density. The 2-dimensional placement method also uses a placement space with rows that have non-uniform sizes and are overlapping. According to one embodiment of the present invention, a computerized method of creating a layout for a circuit design includes receiving a circuit design and receiving at least one layout rule based on a reliability verification constraint for the circuit design. The computerized method further includes generating a layout for the circuit design through computer automated operations wherein the layout generated satisfies the at least one layout rule based on the reliability verification constraint received for the circuit design.

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Attn: Box Patent Application, Washington, D. C. 20231.

"Express Mail" mailing label number EL530191347US

Date of Deposit November 1,1999

Printed name Chris Hammond
Signature Chris Hummand